मरूभूमि का विकास

4833. **श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज** : क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मरूभूमि का क्षेत्र विस्तृत होने के कारण देश में गंभीर समस्या पैदा हो गई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह भी सच है कि इजरायल ने अपनी मरूभूमि को विकसित करने में अदभुत सफलता प्राप्त की है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने गत वर्षों में देश की मरूभूमि के विकास के लिए इजराइल से सहायता प्राप्त करने के लिए कोई प्रयास किये हैं , और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में किये गये प्रयासों का क्या परिणाम निकला ?

ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय (ग्रामीण विकास विभाग) में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जी. वेंकट-स्वामी) : (क) निम्नलिखित राज्यों में उनके नाम के सामने दर्शाये गए क्षेत्र का गर्म और शीत मरुस्तली क्षेत्र के रूप में पता लगाया गया है :—

(100 वर्ग कि० मी०)

गर्म मरूस्थल	राज्य	मरूस्थली क्षेत्र
	राजस्थान	208.75
	गुजरात	9.37
	हरियाणा	17.62
	योग	235.74

शीत मरूस्थल	राज्य	मरूस्थली क्षेत्र
	जम्मू व कश्मीर	96.70
	हिमाचल प्रदेश	29.70
	योग	126.40

अपर्याप्त और अनिश्चित वर्षा के कारण इन क्षेत्रों को वनस्पति की हानि, भूमि कटाव और पानी के दबाव का सामना करना पड़ता है जिससे उत्पादन और उत्पादकता में कमी आती है।

(ख) से (घ) : मरूभूमि विकास की समस्या को स्वदेशी प्रौद्योगिकी का इस्तेमाल करके हल किया जा रहा है और इस प्रयोजन के लिए इजरायल से सहायता प्राप्त करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

Drinking Water in Bihar

4832. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whetner Government have fixed any targets for providing drinking water in Bihar particularly in its rural areas during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of hand pumps and wells likely to be provided in the State during the plan period alongwith details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The State Govt. of Binar has informed that the following targets have been fixed for pro-

viding drinking water in rural areas during the Eighth Five Year Plan:—

Handpumps	1,44,424
Drilled tubewells	42,884
Wells	874
Re-location of tubewells ..	98,013

The entire unserved and underserved rural population is likely to be provided safe drinking water facilities by the end of the Plan period.

Indian Industries to try new processes by CSIR

4835. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what measures are being taken by Government to persuade Indian Industry to try the new processes or products by C.S.I.R.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMRAMANGALAM): New processes/ products developed by CSIR are entitled to the same benefits as are available to new processes/products developed by other publicly funded R&D organisations, such as grant of higher depreciation allowance for plant and machinery for setting up Industries based on indigenous technology. Besides, to persuade Indian Industry to try new technologies developed by CSIR, it has enhanced its interaction with industry in project identification and selection, with Consultancy Organizations in putting together appropriate technology packages and with financial institutions for financial assistance.

Rain fall with the help of silver iodide

4836. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some drought prone countries produced rain with the help of silver iodide;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the experiment in western countries produced evidence that the rainfall had increased from 3 per cent to 4 per cent;

(c) if so, whether Government have any proposal to produce rain with the help of silver iodide;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

Some countries notably US, Israel, Australia etc., when faced with drought, have carried out scientifically controlled cold cloud seeding operations using Silver Iodide in an attempt to increase rainfall.

(b) The results of the cloud seeding experiments using Silver Iodide have not produced consistent results. In some cases, increase of precipitation from 3 to 4 per cent has been obtained.

(c) At present there is no proposal under consideration to undertake seeding of cold clouds using Silver Iodide.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) In India, 90 per cent of the clouds during the South-West Monsoon season are warm clouds. Silver Iodide technique is not suitable for seeding such clouds.